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DUNK ISLAND



THE STORY OF
THE ISLE OF PEACE
AND PLENTY

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DUNK ISLAND

JEWEL OF THE CORAL SEAS



"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music that he hears."

Such was the tolerant philosophy of E. J. Banfield ("The Beachcomber") who, by his writings, made Dunk Island famous, and in large part is responsible for the present delightful holiday resort that it is. Banfield built into Dunk Island his ideal of a place in tune with rest and contentment. Picture to yourself a tropic isle, exuberant in its vegetation, and beautiful in repose, at dawn, or noon, or dusk. . . . Imagine the beauty of the coral reef pools, flaunting colours filched from the ardent sun; the restless, throbbing sea, creaming on the yellow tropic sands; the flaming brilliance of the tropic flowers, and over all the peace of a perfect tropic paradise. . . . That is Dunk Island.

Dunk Island, roughly midway between Cairns and Townsville, nestles in tropic waters, perpetually protected by the Great Barrier Reef, one of the greatest natural wonders of the world, which is easily accessible from Dunk Island. The life the Reef contains teems with interest, variety and beauty, and is unrivalled by any other region, whether in the sea or on the land.

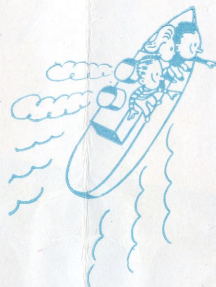
Dunk Island has elevations up to 900 feet, and from April to November—the ideal holiday season—possesses a more temperate climate than Melbourne, the mean temperature being 69 degrees.

Secluded bays, sandy beaches, crystal streams, mountain walks, exploring caves, beachcombing, lazing, swimming, fishing, dancing—Dunk provides action at its best, and complete and peaceful rest. If you would greet the day or night with joy, visit Dunk Island expecting much, it will not fail you, and you will discover the perfect holiday resort. Plan your holiday any time between mid-April and November, and experience the finest holiday of your life in surroundings that will thrill you with their fascinating interest.

Coral Cod caught near the Settlement.



The Brassey Homestead at Dunk Island.



HOW TO GET THERE — AND COSTS

VISITORS to Dunk Island can travel by air or rail along the Sunshine Route. It is to be hoped that steamer services will soon be restored, information regarding which will be available at the offices of the Queensland Government Tourist Bureau or from Shipping Companies. If you travel by rail the journey is along the Sunshine Route to Tully, the nearest mainland town to Dunk Island. Detraining at Tully the visitor proceeds to the Hotel Tully, where lunch may be obtained and where other facilities are available prior to departure by car for Hull River, a journey of 15 miles through luxuriant canefields. A launch trip of 4 miles completes the journey to Dunk Island, where a hearty welcome awaits you. If you travel by air you may alight at Cairns or Townsville, and complete the journey to Tully by rail, as outlined above. It is anticipated that a direct air service to Dunk Island will be provided in the near future.

Detailed information regarding costs of transport and accommodation may be obtained from the Queensland Government Tourist Bureau, or from the proprietor direct: Gerald N. Caught, Dunk Island, via Tully.

The management reserves the right to alter time-tables without further notice. In the event of unfavourable weather conditions, or other unavoidable circumstances causing a variation or delay to published schedules, visitors are requested to bear the additional expense incurred (if any) for accommodation or transport on the mainland.



"THE BEACHCOMBER"

CALLED "Coonanglebah" by the natives and named by Cook in June, 1770, after George M. Dunk, Earl of Halifax, First Lord of the Admiralty, Dunk Island is fragrant with memories of that literary Crusoe, the late E. J. Banfield: it retains much of the natural beauty of the insular Arden of "My Tropic Isle" and "typifies all that is tranquil, quiet, easeful, dream-like, for it is the isle of Dreams."

The following extract is from "Australian Encyclopedia":—

"Born at Liverpool, September 4th, 1852. Having been warned that an indoor life would be fatal to him (Banfield), he gave up journalism and took up a lease of Dunk Island, 3 miles square, between Townsville and Cairns, where he and his wife lived from 1897 to 1923, regaining health and vitality as if by magic."

The works of E. J. Banfield consist of "The Confessions of a Beachcomber," "My Tropic Isle," "Tropic Days," and "Last Leaves from Dunk Island."



The last Island Resting Place of Edward James Banfield, and his wife, Bertha.

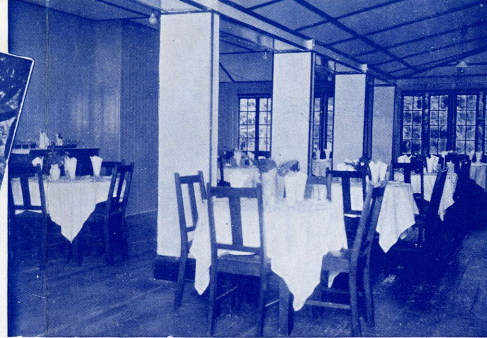


Close-up View of Chalets at Dunk Island.

WHAT TO TAKE

INFORMAL dress is worn at Dunk Island. Comfortable sports and beach wear during the day, with a change of attire in the evenings. A broad-brimmed hat, and suitable clothes to guard against sunburn, plus sandals or sandshoes, waders for reefing, beach towel, bathing costume, fishing tackle, electric torch, camera and sun glasses are suggestions for inclusion—but beware of excessive luggage. A warm coat or pullover is needed some nights in the winter months, which can be decidedly cool.

NOTE:—Visitors to the island and the Great Barrier Reefs are reminded that the removal of coral, flora or fauna from these areas is strictly forbidden by Order-in-Council.



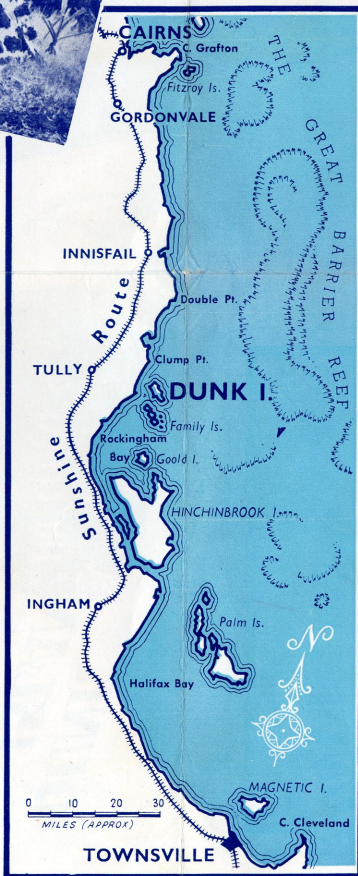
View of Dining-room at Dunk Island.

distance away from the dining-room. The dance hall and the hotel bar are a separate unit near the beach.

Accommodation is provided for over 40 guests, housed in attractive chalets of fibrolite walls and ceilings, iron roofs, and concrete floors provided with mats. Special glass louvers are used in place of windows for light and ventilation. Doors are of two separate sections, upper and lower, which operate independently. Each bungalow has a verandah. All furniture is of silky oak and comprises a lowboy, wardrobe, single beds, dressing table, and occasional table.

The chalets contain either three double rooms or five single rooms, and each chalet has its own bathroom, and baggage room, built integral. The bathrooms are complete with cast enamel bath, handbasin, shower, and septic system. Hot water is available. Every building has its own septic tank, thus providing modern sanitation.

Arrangements may be made with the proprietor for the exclusive use of a chalet containing three double rooms, bathroom, septic, etc. One room could be furnished as a sitting-room or studio.



Coconut Palms near the Brassey Homestead.

ACCOMMODATION

SITUATED 'midst all the beauties of the Great Barrier Reef, and gifted with a climate of sun-washed lazy days, the appeal of Dunk Island has been yet further enhanced by its luxurious living arrangements. Nothing has been spared to provide the utmost in restful comfort.

Much has been done to the island since Banfield pioneered this earthly paradise. To its breathtaking tropic beauty has been added all those amenities which modern living expects. Banfield's old home—recently modernised—stands elevated on a 40-foot high plateau, and is now the island dining-room, fronted by a lounge with a triple verandah surrounding it. The chalets are a short



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Service & Cuisine

SERVICE and cuisine is all that you ask for. An extensive kitchen garden supplies vegetables. Poultry and eggs come from the island poultry farm. Jersey cows provide milk. Tropical fruit is grown plentifully.

Supplies such as camera films, cigarettes, toothpaste, fishing gear, patent medicines, etc., may be purchased at the kiosk. A tennis court is available to Dunk Island guests, and the grassed airstrip is excellent for a stretch out of golf. Various boats are available for hire, including pulling and powered dinghies. Cruising and fishing in the larger vessels is conducted through the Barnard Islands and Mourilyan Harbour to Innisfail on the Johnstone River; to the Barrier Reef; and south through the Family Group to Goold and Brooke Island, and to Hinchinbrook Channel, through whose 40 miles of beauty large vessels ply to Lucinda Wharf; and on to Palm Islands some 30 miles north of Townsville.

For Further Information and Bookings Apply

QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT TOURIST BUREAU

ADELAIDE STREET - - BRISBANE

Martin Place, Sydney

:-:

Collins Street, Melbourne

Also at Coolangatta, Rockhampton, Mackay, Townsville and Cairns

General View of Chalets and Coconut Grove.

